Implementation of the Recommendations of Justice U.N. Bachawat Wage Board

*70. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL :
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government are taking on the demands of the journalists and non-journalist employees of the news-papers and news-agencies for adequate improvement in the recommendations of the Wage Board headed by Justice U.N. Bachawat;

(b) by when it is likely to be implemented;

(c) whether Government have received a memorandum in this regard from the Federation of Working Journalists; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) to (d) Government is considering the report in all its aspects including representations received on it.

Setting up of a National Poultry Development Board

*71. DR. NARREDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a National Poultry Development Board; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Pension scheme for working journalists and non-journalists

*72. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working group set up by Government to draw up a scheme of pensions for working journalists and non-journalists has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, what are the main recommendations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Group has recommended introduction of one of the several alternative pension schemes suggested by them for the journalists and non-journalists employees of the Newspaper establishments.

Liberation of scavengers

*73. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced any scheme for the liberation of scavengers;

(b) if so, the names of the States where such a scheme has been introduced;

(c) whether it has been introduced in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details of Central assistance given to Orissa during the last three years for implementing this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme; namely, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Liberation of Scavengers, has been introduced in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Central assistance of Rs. 127.77 lakhs was given to the Govt. of Orissa during the last three years.

Plight of Coconut growers in Kerala

*74. SHRI N. E. BALARAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the plight of the coconut growers in Kerala because of the steep fall in the price of coconuts this year;

(b) if so, whether the NAFED has entered the markets to purchase both coconut and copra;

(c) whether it is a fact that NAFED has not fixed a minimum support price which is very essential in view of the steep fall in prices; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction to the growers' demands in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NAFED has entered the market and has purchased a quantity of 1062 MTs of Copra between 19th May, 1989 to 17th July, 1989 as part of commercial operations.

(c) and (d) Minimum support price is fixed by the Government. We are going to declare minimum support price for copra today.

Profits earned by the undertakings under the control of Ministry of Food Processing Industries

*75. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of products manufactured by the Food Processing Industries during the last financial year;

(b) the profits earned by the various undertakings of the Ministry during the last financial year; and

(c) the quantum of products of the food processing undertakings exported during the last financial year alongwith the names of the countries to which exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Food processing industries are in the organized, unorganized and co-operative sectors. Information about quantum of products manufactured by them is not centrally maintained. However, production achieved in their various activities during 1988-89 by Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. and North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd., the public sector undertakings under the administrative charge of the Ministry, are given below :

Figures are provisional and unaudited

Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd.:	
Bread & other bakery products	1760. 97 lakhs of standard loaves of 400 gm. each.
Fruit juice drinks	3.58 lakhs crates of 24 bottles each.